

Thomas G. Gatzunis, P.E. Commissioner

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Minutes

MASSACHUSETTS STATE ATHLETIC COMMISSION ONE ASHBURTON PLACE, DPS CONFERENCE ROOM 1301 MARCH 11, 2014, 1:00pm

1. Meeting called to order by LaTeisha Adams, Chair at 1:17pm, followed by roll call

Board Members Present:

LaTeisha Adams, Chair Guy Licciardi, Board Member Gary Litchfield, Board Member Quion T Riley, Board Member

Board Member Not Present:

Joseph Krowski Jr, Board Member

Guests Present:

Ronnie Drimer, DPS Program Coordinator Deirdre Hosler, DPS Deputy General Counsel Karyn Wesch, MMA Promoter Camber Bohlen, MMA Fighter Michael Polvere, MMA Matchmaker

- 2. Approval of the minutes from the last meeting on February 11, 2014. The minutes from the last meeting on February 11, 2014, were reviewed by members present: motion to approve these minutes was made by Commissioner Gary Litchfield, seconded by Commissioner Quion Riley. Motion was passed by unanimous vote.
- 3. Renewal vote to approve remote participation of members. Attorney Deirdre Hosler let the Commission know that according to the law the Chair must be present at all meetings during which there is remote participation. She will look into whether or not there can be an Acting Chair if the Chair is unable to attend. There must also be a quorum physically present at the meeting for remote participation. A motion was made by Commissioner Litchfield

- to approve remote participation of members, seconded by Commissioner Licciardi. The motion was passed by unanimous vote.
- 4. Approval of suspensions for February 21, 2014, MMA event. A motion was made by Commissioner Litchfield to approve the suspensions for the February 21, 2014 MMA event, seconded by Commissioner Licciardi. The motion was passed by unanimous vote.
- 5. Late to weigh-in on February 20, 2014: Dominic Warr and Dan Bardellini.

 The Commission would like the staff to send hearing notices to Dominic Warr and Dan Bardellini, MMA fighters who were late to the weigh-in on February 20, 2014, to speak about disciplinary actions. Dan Bardellini was 1 hour and 35 minutes late due to "cutting weight". Dominic Warr was late by 1 hour and 45 minutes for "car trouble". Neither fighter called to let the promoter know they were going to be late to the weigh-in.
- 6. Takehiko Suzuki application for Boxing Promoter.

 Motion to approve Takehiko Suzuki's MMA Promoter application was made by Commissioner Licciardi, seconded by Commissioner Riley.

 Motion passed by unanimous vote. Mr. Suzuki's variance requests for the ring and change is the duration of rounds will be addressed when he sends in his event application. Directv/BKB fighters will be using regulation boxing gloves for their events.
- 7. Karyn Wesch-issues with 2 events on the same day. MMA Promoter Karyn Wesch addressed the Commission with her concerns about approving 2 events on the same day. She said that in 2011 she was not approved to have an event because another promoter already had the date confirmed. She stated that because of that she lost her deposit on the venue. She also said she was at a meeting a few years ago that the Commission voted not to have 2 events on the same date. Chair Adams said the Commission would allow 2 fights on the same day if there were enough officials and deputies available. Attorney Hosler stated that the regulations do allow more than one event on the same day. Ronnie Drimer said that all of Karyn Wesch's officials and deputies had been confirmed before the second application for her April 5, 2014 event date came in and that the other matchmaker was informed that the event application would only be approved if and when all officials and deputies were confirmed for that event. Promoter Wesch also said each promoter is using fighters from the same schools. Fighters are also backing out of her fight to fight on the other promoter's card. Amateur fighters do not have contracts with promoters and there is no sanction against them by the Commission. Commissioner Licciardi said that was not Commission business and that promoters should be dealing with those issues among themselves. Karyn Wesch also said that she will be adding 3 professional bouts to her card as soon as her bond is approved. She was instructed that she will have to provide another application to add the pros. Her event application had only been approved for amateur bouts.

- 8. Review of Medical Advisory Board membership and meetings: resumes, number of meetings per year: topics of the next meeting.

 Commissioner Licciardi informed the Commission that all of the Medical Advisory Board(MAB) members had submitted their resumes. Attorney Hosler said the Board must meet at least 4 times per year. Commissioner Licciardi mentioned it would be easier to have meetings with a smaller Board; there are currently 11 members on the MAB at this time. It is difficult to get a quorum with a minimum of 6 members to be present. Commissioner Licciardi will forward all names to the Commission members.
- 9. Matters not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance of the meeting: Karyn Wesch provided a letter from fighter Camber Bohlen's physician clearing him to fight. The office staff will notify the ABC to remove the suspension.

This meeting adjourned at 2:18pm.

List of Documents/Exhibits Used at this Meeting

- 1. Boxing Promoter Takehiko Suzuki's application
 - 2. February 11, 2014 suspension list
 - 3. Late to weigh-in forms on Dominic War and Dan Bardellini
 - 4. List of Medical Advisory Board members